

BAKERSFIELD JC "FEARS" POSSIBLE WARRIOR UPSET

Ripped apart in the second half by San Diego, El Camino re-adjusts its strategy and picks up the remnants of the mess in an attempt to stave off Junior Rose Bowl-bound Bakersfield at 8 p.m. Saturday night, as the Indians trek northward for the Metropolitan Conference grid finale.

What happened to the Tribe in the final two periods of the Knight tilt, when the Border City eleven kept the mathematicians earnestly pushing a pencil with a 36-point outburst, is likely to happen in Bakersfield, only the first two periods, unless Coach Norm Verry has something up his sleeve.

Bakersfield ran up 26 points in the first 6:43 of play when Santa Monica, defending JRB and loop champion, invaded the BJC Bowl. Last week Valley felt the wrath of the opening Renegade sting when the 'Gades tallied 20 markers in the first round.

San Diego was almost as impressive, as the Knights punched out 16 digits in the third period and bounced back for 20 additional points in the final stanza en route to erasing El Camino's 22-0 half-time lead and posting an upset 36-34 victory to ruin the local's Homecoming fray.

"Blistering" Ed Buchanan contributed most of the damage for the SD forces by crossing the final chalk stripe four times, including a 90-yard kick-off return for six points.

Coach George Schutte's stubborn Knights rocketed to the front for the first time in the contest, and permanently, with less than five minutes remaining.

Buchanan battered four yards for the winning touchdown following a pass interception by Neal Petties, who pilfered four Tribe aerials during the course of the afternoon's events, and an 18-yard toss from Quarterback John Tomlinson to Buchanan.

El Camino, which at one time in the game held a commanding 22-0 lead, found itself two points down with time running out.

Camino racked up the San Diego defense for 482 yards, 212 on the ground and 270 thru the air, in moving to 21 first downs, but San Diego speed on punt and kick-off returns in the defensive secondary nipped the Warriors.

Everything appeared as if ECC was going to have its first successful Homecoming since the Tribe belted Bakersfield 7-6 back in 1956. The Indians performed perfectly in the first half, rolling to a 22-0 lead.

Taking the opening boot and working down the field 82 yards in 13 plays, Quarterbacks Dave Long connected with Bob Clark for a seven-yard touchdown play 5:04 into the match.

Halfback Gene Williams, looking as sharp as he did in the Santa Monica victory, slanted off tackle behind Guard Bob Winter for a four-yard jaunt eight minutes later to put the homebreds ahead 16-0.

Key play of the six-play for 66-yard march was an over-the-shoulder snag, a la Elroy Hirsch on Del Shofner by Williams, on a 46-yard flip from Long.

When a Knight halfback bob-

bled the ball in the second period, Winters pounced the loose pigskin. The Tribe turned the miscue into a 36-yard march, with Rich Stanford capping the movement with a one-yard plunge to pay dirt.

Ron Veres, second-string quarterback, guided the Warriors to the SDJC five-yard line, but time ran out in the half before the El Cams could push it over.

Buchanan, circuit track champion, sprinted 90 yards with the second-half kick-off to place the Southerners on the scoreboard, 22-8.

Warrior runners didn't let this

error faze them, as they rebounded with a 71-yard migration in 13 plays with Clark hauling in his second touchdown pass of the game, this time a 10-yarder from Veres.

Confident that a 28-8 margin was sufficient for victory, the Indians relaxed for a breather, but on the last play of the third quarter Tomlinson heaved a 33-yard bullet to Clarence Adams, who was waiting alone in the end zone.

Buchanan, who was a one-man show in tallying four tds, narrowed the gap early in the fourth stanza when he capped a

66-yard march with a seven-yard points of the now panicking skirt, pulling SD to within six Indians.



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